

## NOTE XX.

## ON SEMNOPI THECUS PYRRHUS HORSFIELD

BY

**Dr. F. A. JENTINK.**

January 1892.

---

(Plates 3 and 4).

Specimens belonging to this species are very rare in Zoological collections, the only specimens to be found in Musea are, as far as I am aware, the type-specimens in the British Museum from Horsfield's collections from Java, and a nearly adult male in the Leyden Museum collected in 1860 by Professor de Vriese, with the exact locality, district Batou, Passarouan-residence, East-Java.

In his well known »*Simiae*» Schlegel observed that *S. pyrrhus* is distinguished from *S. maurus*: »parce qu'il garde, »pendant toute son existence, la teinte d'un roux-rouge »propre au très jeune âge, teinte qui change, dans le »*S. maurus*, de très bonne heure, au noir; puis qu'il a »les ongles d'un jaune blanchâtre et non pas bruns."

Professor Hubrecht on his journey in the Malayan Archipelago had the good luck to come across several specimens of this species and has brought home skins of an adult, of a half-grown and of a young individual, besides skeletons. They have been collected close to the locality where Professor de Vriese procured the above mentioned specimen, namely in the Bezoeki-residence, between Djember and Poeger.

I have nothing to add to Schlegel's description of the color of the specimens, old and young presenting the typical red, somewhat lighter however because they have been preserved in spirits. According to the value ascribed

to the red color of the animal the different authors have followed Horsfield and accepted the distinction of *S. pyrrhus* from *S. maurus*, like J. E. Gray, 1843 (List of the specimens of Mammalia, a. s. o. p. 3) and Schlegel, 1876 (Catalogue, Simiae, p. 56), or classed it as a variety of *S. maurus*, like J. E. Gray, 1870 (Catalogue of Monkeys, Lemurs, a. s. o. p. 15), J. Anderson, 1878 (Anatomical and Zoological researches, a. s. o. p. 28) and 1881 (Catalogue of Mammalia in the Indian Museum, part I, p. 47), but nobody ever has tried to compare the skulls of *S. maurus* and *S. pyrrhus* and, in my view, this would have been the finishing stroke.

I now possess a rich material to study the skulls and to compare the bony parts, viz: four skulls belonging to individuals of different age and two skeletons of *S. pyrrhus* and a large lot of skeletons and skulls of *S. maurus*. In comparing the skull of an adult male of *S. pyrrhus* with that of an adult male of *S. maurus* (plates 3 and 4) it appears at a glance that the former is much more prognath, resulting from the greater development of all the teeth and of the mandibles: the canines are of a much larger size and the molars are stouter and stronger: very surprising is the different form of the anterior part of the lower mandibles, high and more or less as it were truncated in *S. pyrrhus*, lower and sloping in *S. maurus*. Among others there is to observe a very striking difference in the extent of the bony palate, being in *S. maurus* much smaller than in *S. pyrrhus* (plates 3 and 4, figs. 1 and 3) and less protruded backward.

	<i>S. pyrrhus.</i>	<i>S. maurus.</i>
	Mm.	Mm.
Length of upper molar series . . .	29 . . .	27
» » lower » » . . .	36 . . .	33
Greatest dimension of lower jaw .	74 . . .	70
Length of bony palate . . . .	39 . . .	32,5
Skeleton with 12 dorsal-, 7 lumbar-, 3 sacral- and 27 caudal vertebrae.		

In conclusion *S. pyrrhus* and *S. maurus* are two well-defined species, differing — although their covering in young state bears about the same reddish color — by the color of the fur and by their bony parts; moreover there is a peculiar difference in their characters: Horsfield already stated that the *Lutung* (*S. pyrrhus*) is a favourite among the natives; whenever an individual is obtained, care is taken to domesticate it, and it is treated with kindness and attention; the *Budeng* (*S. maurus*) on the contrary, is neglected and despised and it requires much patience in any degree to improve the natural sullenness of its temper; in confinement it remains during many months grave and morose, and as it contributes nothing to the amusement of the natives, it is rarely found in the villages or about the dwellings. This does not arise (said Horsfield) from any aversion on the part of the Javanese to the monkey race: the most common species of the Island, the *Cercocebus Aygula* of Geoffroy, the Egret Monkey of Pennant (*Cercocebus cynamolgos*) is very generally domesticated, and a favourite custom of the natives is to associate it with the horse. In every stable, from that of a Prince to that of a Mantry, or chief of a village, one of these Monkeys is found; but I never observed the *Budeng* thus distinguished.